

**Key to Success: Jihad (Struggle) and Infaq (Giving)** (Ayaah 243-283) The focus of this section is giving in the cause of Allah<sup>SWT</sup> -- both with life and wealth. One is Jihad and the other Infaaq. Muslims are told not to fear death and be attached to the love of worldly things. If Muslims have strong emaan, they will be victorious over the forces of evil, despite being financially or numerically weak, just as the Bani Israeel were against Goliath (Jaalut) under the leadership of Da'ood<sup>AS</sup>

The subject then switches to "giving" in the cause of Allah<sup>SWT</sup> both, obligatory alms, Zakaah and Sadaqah to purify self and personal wealth.: *"O you who believe! Spend from the good things which you have (honestly) earned..."* [2:267] *"The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like that of a grain (of corn): it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. And Allah multiplies (His rewards) for whom He wills."* [Riba (usury and interest) declared absolutely Haraam. Muslims are warned that any involvement in Riba-- receiving, giving, or witnessing it, are all Haraam (illegal) with severe punishment and a declaration of war from Allah<sup>SWT</sup>: *"O you who believe! Fear Allah and give up what remains (due to you) from Riba ... And if you do not do it, then take a notice of war from Allah and His Messenger."* Also, *"Allah will destroy Riba and will give increase for Sadaqaat (deeds of charity)."* [2:276]

**Moral and Spiritual Resources** (Ayaah 284-286) The last three verses of Suratul Baqarah are of great importance. They talk about Allaah being the owner whatever is in the heavens and the earth, that he knows what we tell and what we hide, that Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and his followers believe in Allaah, the Qur'an and the earlier books, angels, and all the messengers, that Allaah SWT does test a person more than his or her ability. In the last verse Allaah SWT teaches the believers how to seek forgiveness for their shortcomings and victory over the disbelievers. Imam Bukhari has reported in his Sahih from Abu Mas'ud al-Badri (RA) that the Prophet (SAW) said, *"Whosoever recited the last two verses of Suratul Baqarah at night, that will be sufficient for him."*

### SURAH AL~E 'IMRAN

Surah Al~e Imran was revealed in Madinah and consists of four main sections: the first, from ayah 1-32, was probably revealed soon after the Battle of Badr, the second, from 33-63, was revealed in 9 AH on the occasion of the visit of some Christians from Najran, the third, from 64-120, appears to have been revealed immediately after the first one, and the fourth, from 121-200, was revealed after the Battle of Uhud. The Sura especially addresses the People of the Book (the Jews and the Christians) and the followers of Muhammad<sup>SAW</sup>. The People of the Book are told that Muhammad<sup>SAW</sup> taught the same right way of life that had been preached by their own Prophets; hence any deviation from it will be wrong, even according to their own Scriptures. The Muslims are declared the best community as long as they adhere to their Deen and enjoin the good and forbid evil. They are warned no to make the kind of mistakes that the People of the Book had. They are taught how to deal with the People of the Book and the hypocrites who were creating problems in the in the way of the believers. Above all, they are warned to guard against those weaknesses, which had come to the surface during the Battle of Uhud.